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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR
1948

J. F. SWAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health.

BOOTLE TIMES, 30, ORIEL ROAD.

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STAFF.

School Medical Officer:

F. T. H. WOOD, O.B.E., M.D. (Lond.), B.S., B.Sc., D.P.H. (to 17th August).

J. F. SWAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (from 18th August).

Deputy School Medical Officer:

J. F. SWAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (to 17th August).

Assistant School Medical Officers:

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

J. H. BREWSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer:

H. B. DAWES, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officer:

E. G. O'SHEA, B.D.S.

Administrative Assistant:

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A. (Admin.).

Visiting Specialists:

I. A. TUMARKIN, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., D.L.O., *Aural Surgeon.*

E. ALLAN, M.B., Ch.B., *Ophthalmic Surgeon.*

F. C. DWYER, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.Ch.Orth., *Orthopaedic Surgeon.*

School Nurses:

Miss A. THOMAS (retired on 31st July).

Miss M. I. H. DAVIES.

Mrs. S. FOULDS.

Miss A. H. GRAHAM (from 1st September).

Miss M. STEWART (from 4th October).

Dental Attendants:

Miss G. WILLIAMS.

Miss D. BERNARD.

Clerks:

Miss D. GREEN (Clerk in charge).

Miss W. MULHALL.

Mrs. M. J. EGERTON.

Miss A. E. JOHNS.

Scabies Clinic Attendant:

Mrs. E. LANDER.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
BOOTLE.

March, 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Education Committee.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the forty-first Annual Report on the medical inspection of school children in the Borough.

In August last Dr. F. T. H. Wood retired after twenty-eight years' service to the Bootle Corporation. During his period of office the School Medical Service has been built up to its present high standard, and the Health Centre, Knowsley Road, serves as a reminder of his ability and foresight.

In the year under review the National Health Service Act has come into operation, and as a result the hospital and specialist treatment of school children are no longer the financial responsibility of the Education Committee.

It is pleasing to note that there has been an improvement in the cleanliness of school children; the incidence of scabies has been much reduced, as has also the number of verminous children found. It is to be regretted that the number of juvenile offenders in respect of whom medical histories have been requested by the Director of Education shows a considerable increase over last year. I have included a table on page 6 showing the number of such reports supplied during the past five years.

A feature of the year has been an epidemic of conjunctivitis and blepharitis.

It is a pleasure to record my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee for their interest in the School Health Service, and to the Director of Education, the teachers of the Borough, and the staff of my Department for their co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. F. SWAN,
School Medical Officer.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1948.

Area of Bootle in acres (exclusive of river bed)—2,414.

Population of Borough—Registrar-General's estimate of population at 30th September, 1948—67,530.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. The following statement records the attendance position in January, 1949, and shows an increase of 666 on the combined rolls of the Primary and Secondary Schools as compared with the previous year.

| | | | | | Number. | Mean No. on Rolls. | Average Attendance. |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Primary Schools—</i> | | | | | | | |
| County | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 3259 | 2725 |
| Voluntary | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 | 4651 | 4281 |
| | | | | | 30 | 7910 | 7006 |
| <i>Secondary Schools—</i> | | | | | | | |
| County | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 2760 | 2516 |
| Voluntary | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 545 | 469 |
| | | | | | 10 | 3305 | 2985 |

COST.—The rateable value of the Borough as at 1st April 1948 was £469,184.

The estimated gross cost of medical inspection and treatment for the twelve months ended March 31st 1948 was £15,713 8s. 9d., compared with £17,336 12s. 9d. for the preceding year. The Government Grant was £8,892, sundry receipts totalled £168 8s. 7d., hence the net cost was £6,653 0s. 2d.

The grant for the financial year 1947-48 was at the maximum rate of 57·1993 per cent. of the net expenditure.

The cost under this head per child on the school rolls was £1 9s. 2d. gross, and 12s. 4d. net, and the cost in terms of a penny rate was 8·15d. gross, and 3·45d. net.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A statistical summary of the findings of medical inspection and of the kind of treatment obtained will be found in the Ministry of Education Return at the end of this Report.

(1) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.—Periodic medical inspections were carried out in all schools with respect to the groups specified in paragraph 49 (2) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, viz. :—

- (a) every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school as soon as possible after the date of his admission;
- (b) every pupil attending a maintained Primary School during the last year of his attendance at such a school;
- (c) every pupil attending a maintained Secondary School during the last year of his attendance at such a school.

During the year the number of inspections totalled 3,331, made up as follow:—Entrants 1,471, Second Age Group 1,075, and Third Age Group 785.

(2) SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.—The number of children presented for special examination was 5,974, as compared with 5,350 in the preceding year; 5,917 of these were seen at Minor Ailments Clinics, while the remaining 57 were presented at schools in the course of routine visits.

(3) RE-EXAMINATIONS.—4,140 re-examinations of children, who on examination were referred for treatment or further observation, were made during the year, as compared with 5,672 during 1947; 382 of these were performed at the schools, and 3,758 at the School Medical Offices and Health Centre.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS. — In addition to the ordinary work of routine and special examinations and re-inspections undertaken during the year, the following work was carried out:—

Examination of:—

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Children as to fitness for employment | ... | ... | 141 |
| „ for ascertainment of educational sub-normality | ... | ... | 40 |
| Other children | ... | ... | 79 |

In addition, the Director of Education was supplied with medical histories of 266 juvenile offenders. The following table shows the number of such reports supplied during the past five years:—

| | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1948 | ... | ... | 266 |
| 1947 | ... | ... | 132 |
| 1946 | ... | ... | 75 |
| 1945 | ... | ... | 59 |
| 1944 | ... | ... | 82 |

A summary of the defects noted at both periodic and special examinations shows that 9,005 defects were referred for treatment or further observation.

The incidence of the commoner physical defects in children examined during periodic medical inspection was as follows:—Poor general condition, 6·9 per cent.; squint, 3·3 per cent.; external eye disease, 2·8 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis, 5·3 per cent.; adenoids, 0·5 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis and adenoids, 0·2 per cent.; anaemia, 2·2 per cent.; lung disease, 2·8 per cent.; otorrhoea, 1·4 per cent.; enlarged cervical glands, 7·6 per cent.; defective vision, 21·3 per cent.; and skin conditions, 4·4 per cent.

Children referred for treatment or further observation constituted 48·4 per cent. of the entrants examined, 48·7 per cent. of the primary leavers examined, and 43·7 per cent. of the third group examined.

GENERAL CONDITION.

It will be noted in Table II., on page 19, that classification of the children by "general condition" has been substituted for the former classification by "nutrition"; and this table shows that out of a total of 3,331 children examined 6·37 per cent. were grouped as in poor general condition as compared with 6·44 per cent. classified as of slightly sub-normal nutrition last year.

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS (IN KILOGRAMS) IN 1948 AND EARLIER YEARS.

| Date of Examination. | Boys. | | | Girls. | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----|------------------|-----------------|-----|
| | Number examined. | Average Weight. | | Number examined. | Average Weight. | |
| *1948 ... | 751 | 20·1 | ... | 720 | 19·6 | ... |
| 1947 ... | 472 | 19·4 | ... | 470 | 18·9 | ... |
| 1946 ... | 237 | 18·7 | ... | 233 | 18·1 | ... |
| 1945 ... | 207 | 19·1 | ... | 187 | 18·3 | ... |
| 1942 ... | 133 | 18·1 | ... | 129 | 17·5 | ... |
| 1938 ... | 709 | 18·6 | ... | 654 | 18·0 | ... |

* A number of entrants had attained six years of age at time of examination.

CLEANLINESS.

The total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses for verminous conditions was 29,015, and there were 1,559 instances in which children were noted as unclean. There has been some improvement on last year's figures, which were 18,622 and 1,851 respectively.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.

The activities for the supply of footwear as previously undertaken by the School Canteen Committee are now provided for by Section 51 of the Education Act, 1944. The figures given hereunder show the numbers dealt with:—

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| Free Issues | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1084 |
| Issues on Part Payment | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Applications Refused (overscale, etc.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50 |
| Issues from Second-hand Stock (Canadian Red Cross, etc) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50 |
| | | | | | <hr/> 1190 <hr/> |

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

The daily clinics for the treatment of minor ailments dealt with 7,215 defects, amongst which minor septic infections of the skin were the commonest conditions. The attendances numbered 19,199, excluding 315 of children below school age, as compared with 16,148 in 1947. 3,431 exclusion certificates were given, mainly on account of minor ailments but also on account of infectious diseases.

SKIN DISEASES.

As a result of the inspections at the Minor Ailments Clinics 2,448 children, or 34 per cent. of the total number of children attending, were found to be suffering from infections of the skin. Details of these infections are given in Table III on page 20.

Scabies Clinic.

The decline in the incidence of scabies among school children is shown in the following table:—

| | | | Cases found at Special Examinations. | | Cases found at Routine Inspections. |
|------|-----|-----|--|-----|---|
| 1948 | ... | ... | 36 | ... | 4 |
| 1947 | ... | ... | 69 | ... | 7 |
| 1946 | ... | ... | 151 | ... | 8 |
| 1945 | ... | ... | 188 | ... | 13 |
| 1944 | ... | ... | 371 | ... | 11 |

Arrangements for the examination and treatment of cases of scabies continued on the lines described in the earlier reports, with attention directed to the whole family when any one member was found to be affected. Contacts thus coming under treatment numbered 39, of whom 16 were school-children.

No. of cases on register at 1st January, 1948 12

No. of cases on register at 31st December, 1948 Nil.

No. of special treatments during year:—

| | | | | Males. | | Females. | | Total. |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|----------|-----|--------|
| Adults | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 16 | ... | 17 |
| School Children | ... | ... | ... | 36 | ... | 55 | ... | 91 |
| Infants | ... | ... | ... | 12 | ... | 12 | ... | 24 |
| | | | | 49 | | | 83 | 132 |

During the year one school child was referred by a private medical practitioner to the Clinic, and in addition one school child and one infant were referred from the Bootle General Hospital.

VISION AND EYE DEFECTS.

VISION.—Entrants are not examined for defective vision at routine examinations, but during the year the other age groups were so examined, and 208 or 11·2 per cent. were found to have defective vision requiring further examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon. In addition some 1,458 eight-year-olds were tested with Snellen's Types by School Nurses and 194 were referred for examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

The number of new cases seen at the Clinic during 1948 was 357, and the total number of attendances was 1,498.

All children with glasses have their visual acuity tested by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon once a year, if circumstances permit, while the cases of high myopia receive full examination more frequently.

Squint.

At periodic examinations 111 cases of squint were found, with 23 among the special cases. Thirty cases were operated on by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon at Bootle General Hospital.

External Eye Diseases.

Inflammatory conditions of the external eye were noted in 92 cases at periodic inspections, and in 831 cases at special inspections.

DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT.

The total number on the register at the end of 1948 was 645 (this total includes 74 infants below school age). The 571 school children include 159 cases of otorrhoea, 209 of defects of nose and throat, and 35 of deafness; and the toddlers include 40 cases of otorrhoea, 17 of defects of nose and throat, and three of deafness.

Clinics held during the year totalled 32, with an average attendance of 18 per session. In addition 13 consultative aural clinics were held by Mr. Tumarkin; 373 examinations were made (including 46 toddlers) and 135 cases referred to the special department of the local general hospital.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

At periodic inspections during the past year chronic tonsillitis was recorded in 5·3 per cent.; while disease of both tonsils and adenoids was detected in 0·2 per cent. One hundred and twenty-nine cases received operative treatment as in-patients at Bootle General Hospital, and 70 cases received other forms of treatment.

DENTAL DEFECTS.

Two dental officers were available for duty and between them they devoted eighteen half-days weekly to the School Dental Service.

A full tabular statement of the work of the Dental Service is given in Table IV at the end of this report.

In the schools inspected the highest acceptance rate is seen in Salisbury Road School with 100 per cent., the highest in 1947 being also 100 per cent. (Hawthorne Road); the lowest rate in 1948 was 28·4 per cent., as compared with 29·6 per cent. in 1947.

During the year fourteen senior children have been fitted with partial dentures to replace the loss of unsaveable anterior teeth owing to accident or neglect.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 75 suspected cases were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer; a diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis was made in one case and of tuberculous glands in two cases. Cases definitely considered not to be suffering from disease of tuberculous origin numbered 60, four cases did not attend the Chest Clinic, and at the end of the year eight were still under observation. The following table shows the cases dealt with during the past five years:—

| | Total referred to T.O. | Diagnosed | | | Did not attend. | Under observation at end of year. |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Pulmonary Tuberculosis. | Other forms of Tuberculosis. | Non-Tuberculous. | | |
| 1948 | 75 | 1 | 2 | 60 | 4 | 8 |
| 1947 | 55 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 3 | 8 |
| 1946 | 43 | 1 | — | 28 | 7 | 7 |
| 1945 | 46 | 2 | 2 | 30 | 2 | 9 |
| 1944 | 40 | 3 | 1 | 27 | 4 | 6 |

Residential treatment of tuberculous children of school age was provided during the year at the Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children.

CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS.

There is no change to record in the arrangements described in her reports for the ascertainment and treatment of crippling defects.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Sessions are held at intervals of two months, with Mr. F. C. Dwyer as Consultant Surgeon.

Mr. Dwyer paid six visits to the Clinic during the year, and examined 136 cases referred to him. Of the patients seen, 8 were discharged, while 110 were advised to remain under treatment and supervision; 9 cases were referred to hospital, and in the 9 remaining cases no treatment was considered necessary.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The definition of the various categories of handicapped pupils is set forth in paragraph 3 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, and the numbers in the register at the end of the year are as follows:—

| | Boys. | Girls. | Total. |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Blind | — ... | 2 ... | 2 |
| (b) Partially Sighted | — ... | 1 ... | 1 |
| (c) Deaf | 7 ... | 4 ... | 11 |
| (d) Partially Deaf | 9 ... | 6 ... | 15 |
| (e) Delicate | 26 ... | 19 ... | 45 |
| (f) Diabetic | — ... | 1 ... | 1 |
| (g) Educationally Sub-Normal | 35 ... | 37 ... | 72 |
| (h) Epileptic | 2 ... | 1 ... | 3 |
| (i) Maladjusted | 4 ... | 3 ... | 7 |
| (j) Physically Handicapped | 11 ... | 8 ... | 19 |
| (k) Suffering from Speech Defect | 19 ... | 5 ... | 24 |
| (l) Suffering from multiple disabilities | 2 ... | 1 ... | 3 |
| | <hr/> 115 <hr/> | <hr/> 88 <hr/> | <hr/> 203 <hr/> |

Twenty-seven boys and nineteen girls are attending Special Schools.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

No school or department was closed on account of infectious disease during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.—The number of cases notified in children of school age was 147 (of which number five were not confirmed), compared with 252 in 1947 and 191 in 1946.

DIPHTHERIA.—Twenty-four cases were notified in children of school age (of which number 20 were not confirmed), as compared with 47 in 1947, and 84 in 1946.

MEASLES.—One hundred and fifty-two cases were notified amongst school children, as against 348 in 1947 and 137 in 1946.

CHICKEN-POX.—Seventy-four cases were reported, as against 79 in 1947 and 30 in 1946.

MUMPS.—Fifty-eight cases were reported, compared with 112 in 1947 and 16 in 1946.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Thirty-five cases were notified amongst school children, as compared with 145 in 1947 and 29 in 1946.

Protection against Diphtheria.

Immunisation of children as described in previous reports commenced in 1932, and during the year 1,125 children under five years of age and 272 children of school age completed the course. Arrangements now operate whereby children already immunised and about to enter school are offered a third inoculation in order to raise their immunity at the beginning of their school career, and 588 children were so treated during the year.

NURSERY CLASSES.

| | No. of new admissions in 1948. | No. on roll on 23/12/48. | Average No. in Attendance Jan.-Dec., 1948. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Linaere Nursery | 23 | 28 | 26 |
| St. Monica's (Fernhill Road) ... | 42 | 39 | 32 |
| Salisbury | 31 | 42 | 34 |
| St. Mary's | 38 | 60 | 56 |
| Hawthorne | 18 | 23 | 27 |
| | <hr/> 152 <hr/> | <hr/> 192 <hr/> | <hr/> 175 <hr/> |

There has been no variation in the regulations and conditions of acceptance for admission to the Nursery Classes.

During the course of the year (in June) the provision of breakfasts was discontinued, as it was found that all the children attending the classes had breakfast before arrival. The cost to the parents for meals was consequently reduced from 5/- per week to 3/4 per week.

Accommodation at all the classes was again used to capacity. Exclusive of new admissions to the classes, 200 applications were made for admission.

Health Visitors continued to supervise the hygiene and cleanliness of the children, and an Assistant School Medical Officer made frequent visits. Ninety-two children received a routine medical inspection; 27 were referred for treatment which was available at the School Clinics, and 12 for observation.

The benefit from organised teaching has been evident, although with mental ages ranging from that of the backward three-year-old to the vigorous type approaching five years, the group is not an easy one to train. The results in those children who have spent two years in the nurseries are satisfactory, and where home conditions are known to be unfavourable, the lessons of co-operation and good habits have been valuable gains.

FOLLOWING UP.

The scheme of following-up children suffering from various defects, by the verbal or written advice of the Medical Officer or School Nurse coupled with re-inspection each term, remains as described in previous reports. In the course of their following-up work the School Nurses paid 346 visits to the homes to explain the need for treatment and the way in which it could be obtained.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

The approval of the Ministry of Education was received in March to the Council's proposals for a comprehensive scheme of medical treatment of school children in certain local hospitals and institutions in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 (3) of the Education Act, 1944. From 5th July the hospitals and institutions concerned have been transferred to the Minister of Health under the National Health Service Act, 1946, and school children are since that date included in the hospital and specialist service provided under the Act without cost to the Local Education Authority.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

MEALS.—During the year all school meals were prepared at the Education Committee's kitchens. A new dining-hall has been erected at Gray Street School to seat 500. Four additional kitchens and seven dining-halls are in the course of construction and will be functioning during 1949.

The number of school dinners supplied was:—

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|
| Free | ... | ... | ... | 282,578 |
| On payment | ... | ... | ... | 419,263 |
| Total | | | | <hr/> 701,841 <hr/> |

MILK.—The number of one-third pint bottles of milk provided during the period under review was 1,976,390.

The number of individual children supplied with meals and milk on a normal day in October was:—

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| Meals—Free | ... | ... | ... | 1,152 |
| Paid | .. | ... | ... | 2,400 |
| Total | | | | <hr/> 3,552 <hr/> |
| Milk | ... | ... | ... | 10,047 |

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Miss I. H. Hinds and Mr. F. M. Durrant, Organisers of Physical Training, submit the following reports on this important aspect of education:—

A. GIRLS AND INFANTS.

The Physical Education of the children still suffers from lack of indoor accommodation. Outdoor work is frequently impossible, and where there is no hall available continuity of training is lost.

All schools now have a fairly adequate supply of small apparatus, but are unable to get any of the newer climbing and portable apparatus which is so desirable for all ages of children. The shortage of plimsolls is still acute, as no provision has been made to supply these for the last two years.

ORGANISED GAMES.—The main progress this year has been in increased facilities for tennis for Secondary Modern Schools. This is an important development, as it gives excellent all-round training, and, in addition, is proving an interest which is being carried on after leaving school. Netball and hockey continue to be the winter games, and more inter-school matches are being played, with consequent raising of the standard of performance. Stuart Road Playing Field is well used by all schools near enough to benefit by it, and Orrell Pleasure Ground serves as an open space for others, though the condition of the ground is poor, and there is no hockey pitch.

SWIMMING.—During the summer the Swimming Bath was used to capacity, every Secondary and Junior School having at least one period a week. The number of certificates awarded this summer compares favourably with 1947, but results would be better if a qualified instructress could be appointed, and if more time were available for this most important branch of physical education. There has been much less winter swimming this year since transport to and from the Baths was discontinued. It is very strongly recommended that this should be made available again if possible, as schools and parents were beginning to realise the value of a swimming period, and in winter the opportunity for concentrated instruction is so much greater as few of the public use the Baths.

Royal Life Saving Society examinations were again taken by pupils of Balliol Secondary Modern School, seven certificates and three Bronze Medallions being won.

B. BOYS.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.—No major development took place during the year, but endeavours were made to utilise existing resources to the best advantage.

At both primary and secondary stages experiment in the form and content of the P.T. lesson was encouraged in preparation for the issue of the Ministry's revised syllabus. Although no trial of the new types of apparatus for primary school use was possible, films were shown of experimental work being undertaken in different places, and a film strip was made at one of the schools to illustrate the approach to certain exercises using improvised equipment.

Two teachers' courses were held—one a general refresher course, the other a course designed to link up with the scheme of probationer training. Both were well attended. Several teachers also attended courses in athletics, football and swimming.

ORGANISED GAMES.—By means of special transport to the Orrell Pleasure Ground, all senior and some upper primary classes were provided with some kind of accommodation for field games. Maximum use was made of the Stuart Road Field, where steps were taken to check deterioration in its surface condition.

Cricket and football continued to be the most popular of the field activities, but progress was also made in the development of athletic training both in and out of school hours. Most schools held sports meetings and all combined in a "Sports Festival" held at the end of the summer term.

SWIMMING.—The year's swimming results were outstanding. The two galas held—in which all schools co-operated—showed an improved standard of swimming, and nearly a thousand proficiency certificates were gained, including over two hundred by candidates for the Royal

Life Saving Society's examinations. A retrograde step was the withdrawal of transport to the Baths for the winter session. As a result some winter classes were cancelled and the attendance of others made dependent on weather conditions.

VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES.—Voluntary service on the part of the teachers continued to make an important contribution to the boys' opportunities for healthy physical and social recreation. Cricket and football leagues functioned outside school hours, and camps, athletic and swimming events, boxing tournaments, and P.T. demonstrations were among the activities organised by various schools. Bootle School-Boys' Football Team again distinguished itself in district, county and national competitions.

CONCLUSION.—Physical education is many-sided. It is a continuous process ministering to the physical needs and spirited elements in a boy's nature. Whilst all demands could not be met, there was on all sides a determination that the boys should benefit fully from the facilities available.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

One hundred and thirty-six children engaged as messenger boys or girls were examined, and certificates were granted in 134 cases. These interviews give opportunity to advise on faults in hygiene and to obtain treatment of physical defects, and in this connection it may be mentioned that a local business firm had occasion to refer one girl employee for cleansing of verminous hair.

Five applications were made for certificates for pantomime entertainers, but after examination certificates were withheld on medical grounds in two cases.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION—TABLE I.

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Entrants | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,471 |
| Second Age Group | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,075 |
| Third Age Group | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 785 |
| Total | | | | | | | 3,331 |
| Number of other Periodic Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Grand Total | | | | | | | 3,331 |

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| Number of Special Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,512 |
| Number of Re-Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,140 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | 10,652 |

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

| Group. | | | For defective vision (excluding squint). | For any of the other conditions recorded in Table 11A. | Total individual pupils. |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|--|--|--------------------------|
| (1) | | | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Entrants | ... | ... | 4 | 361 | 363 |
| Second Age Group | ... | ... | 123 | 183 | 285 |
| Third Age Group | ... | ... | 86 | 150 | 224 |
| Total (prescribed groups) | | | 213 | 694 | 872 |
| Other Periodic Inspections | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Grand Total | | | 213 | 694 | 872 |

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

| Defect Code No. | Defect or Disease (1) | PERIODIC INSPECTIONS | | SPECIAL INSPECTIONS | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | No. of defects | | No. of defects | |
| | | Requiring treatment (2) | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment. (3) | Requiring treatment (4) | Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment. (5) |
| 4. | Skin | 77 | 10 | 1579 | 1 |
| 5. | Eyes— | | | | |
| | a. Vision ... | 212 | 34 | 107 | 3 |
| | b. Squint ... | 48 | 32 | 22 | 1 |
| | c. Other ... | 70 | 7 | 811 | 20 |
| 6. | Ears— | | | | |
| | a. Hearing ... | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| | b. Otitis Media . | 31 | 8 | 226 | — |
| | c. Other ... | 33 | 30 | 372 | 1 |
| 7. | Nose or Throat ... | 114 | 131 | 286 | 37 |
| 8. | Speech | 6 | 33 | 2 | 1 |
| 9. | Cervical Glands ... | 18 | 96 | 10 | 33 |
| 10. | Heart and Circulation... | 5 | 67 | — | 8 |
| 11. | Lungs | 54 | 13 | 82 | — |
| 12. | Developmental— | | | | |
| | a. Hernia ... | 2 | 5 | 1 | — |
| | b. Other ... | 1 | 6 | — | — |
| 13. | Orthopaedic— | | | | |
| | a. Posture ... | 8 | 15 | 2 | 1 |
| | b. Flat Foot ... | 89 | 20 | 20 | 9 |
| | c. Other ... | 30 | 26 | 2 | 15 |
| 14. | Nervous System— | | | | |
| | a. Epilepsy ... | — | — | — | 1 |
| | b. Other ... | 12 | 36 | 5 | 18 |
| 15. | Psychological— | | | | |
| | a. Development.. | — | — | — | — |
| | b. Stability ... | — | — | — | — |
| 16. | Other | 575 | 273 | 3074 | 12 |
| | | 1388 | 847 | 6603 | 167 |

**B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED
DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.**

| Age Groups | Number of Pupils Inspected | A (Good) | | B (Fair) | | C (Poor) | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| | | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 | No. | % of col. 2 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| Entrants | 1471 | 373 | 25.36 | 1044 | 70.97 | 54 | 3.67 |
| Second Age Group | 1075 | 31 | 2.88 | 901 | 83.82 | 143 | 13.30 |
| Third Age Group | 785 | 61 | 7.77 | 692 | 88.15 | 32 | 4.08 |
| Other Periodic Inspections .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL .. | 3331 | 465 | 13.96 | 2637 | 79.17 | 229 | 6.87 |

**TABLE III.
TREATMENT TABLES.**

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which
see Table V).

| SKIN— | | | | | | | Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Ringworm—Scalp— | | | | | | | |
| (i) X-Ray treatment | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (ii) Other treatment | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Ringworm—Body | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33 |
| Scabies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70* |
| Impetigo | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 128 |
| Other skin diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2210 |
| Eye Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 878 |
| (External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital). | | | | | | | |
| Ear Defects | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 514 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3375 |
| (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | ... | 7215 |

* Including contacts.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|--------------|
| Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | 10199 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|--------------|

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding
Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

| | Total number treated. |
|--|--------------------------|
| Errors of refraction (including squint) | 330 |
| Other defects or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) | 27 |
| Total ... | 357 |
| No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were (a) Prescribed ... | 461 |
| (b) Obtained ... | 265 |

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE & THROAT.

Received operative treatment—

| | |
|---|------------|
| (a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis | 124 |
| (b) for other nose and throat conditions | 5 |
| Received other forms of treatment | 70 |
| Total ... | 199 |

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| (a) No. treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools | 13 |
| (b) No. treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> in clinics or out-patient departments | 124 |

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH
THERAPY.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of pupils treated (a) under Child Guidance arrangements | 5 |
| (b) under Speech Therapy arrangements | 4 |

TABLE IV.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers— | | | | | | |
| (a) Periodic age groups | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6503 |
| (b) Specials | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1477 |
| (c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials) | | | | | | 7980 |
| (2) Number found to require treatment | | | | | | 5326 |
| (3) Number treated | | | | | | 4426 |
| (4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment | | | | | | 5462 |
| (5) Half-days devoted to: (a) Inspection | | | | | | 37 |
| (b) Treatment | | | | | | 642 |
| Total (a) and (b) | | | | | | 679 |
| (6) Fillings: | | | | | | |
| Permanent Teeth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1557 |
| Temporary Teeth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Total | | | | | | 1557 |
| (7) Extractions: | | | | | | |
| Permanent Teeth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 883 |
| Temporary Teeth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5421 |
| Total | | | | | | 6304 |
| (8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction... | | | | | | 2342 |
| (9) Other Operations: (a) Permanent Teeth | | | | | | 977 |
| (b) Temporary Teeth | | | | | | — |
| Total (a) and (b) | | | | | | 977 |

**TABLE V.
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.**

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29015 |
| (ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1559 |
| (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

